

5 We claim:

1. A device for growing and transporting plants for transplantation, said article

comprising:

a container, containing a mixture of potting media covering the bottom surface area; and

an open web fibrous material enveloping and adhered to lower end of a plant including

10 the roots and/or the stem of a plant, said material and enveloped plant being placed upright and vertical inside said container on top of said mixture of potting media, and said enveloped plant being supplied with water and grown in said container until fully developed;

whereby said fully developed wrapped plant is removed from said container cleaned, drained, boxed and shipped to an end user.

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2. The device according to claim 1, wherein said potting media is a soil-less potting media.

3. The device according to claim 2, wherein said soil-less potting media is comprised of  
20 calcined clay.

4. The device according to claim 1, wherein the fibrous material is comprised of a strip of non-woven fibers that are sufficiently loose to allow plant roots to attach to and grow there-through.

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5. The device according to claim 4, wherein said strip of fibrous material is comprised of synthetic fibers.

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6. The device according to claim 5, wherein said strip of fibrous material is comprised of polyester fibers.

7. The device according to claim 4, wherein said strip of fibrous material is comprised of  
10 natural fibers.

8. The device according to claim 7, wherein said strip of fibrous material is comprised of human hair.

15 9. The device according to claim 1, wherein said plurality of plants are aquatic plants.

10. The device according to claim 9, wherein said fibrous material envelopes and adheres to the roots of one aquatic plant and said aquatic plant is selected from the group comprising water lily tubers and marginal plant cuttings; said plant having either a root or a cut end; and said  
20 fibrous material is a strip of material coiled around the roots of said plant to form a pod such that the plant roots are enveloped centrally in said pod.

11. The device according to claim 10, wherein said coil is secured by ties.

25 12. The device according to claim 11, wherein said ties are UV-resistant cable ties.

5        13. The device according to claim 12, wherein said container is a round pot; and said coil covers the roots of the plant and has a diameter approximately equal to the inner diameter of said pot.

14. The device according to claim 12, wherein the dimensions of said strip are approximately equal to 1 to 1.5 inches by 2 to 4 inches by 18 to 36 inches.

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15. The device according to claim 9, wherein said aquatic plant is selected from the group comprising oxygenator stems and bare root cuttings and has a cut end, and wherein the cut ends of a plurality of said aquatic plants are periodically spaced within, oriented perpendicular to and enveloped between two layers of said fibrous material; said layers secured together by ties; and

15        said container comprises a basin filled with water.

16. The device according to claim 15, wherein said two layers of said fibrous material are formed by folding the length of a strip of said fibrous material in half.

20        17. The device according to claim 16, further comprising a weight attached to said folded strip proximate the cut ends of the plant stems for keeping the cut ends of the plant stems at the bottom of the water basin.

25        18. The device according to claim 17, wherein said strip has dimensions of approximately 1" to 1.5" thick, 2" to 4" wide and up to 36".

5           19. The device according to claim 15, wherein said ties are UV-resistant cable ties.

20. A method for growing, transporting and transplanting plants, said method comprising:

Enveloping the lower end of a plant within an open web fibrous material;  
10           filling a container with a mixture of potting media and fertilizer such that the bottom of the container is covered with said mixture;

placing said enveloped plant upright and vertical in a container and providing said plant with water such that said plant is allowed to grow and establish roots in said potting media;  
once a plant is fully developed, removing said enveloped plant from said potting media  
15           and said container;

cleaning, draining and boxing said enveloped plant;  
transporting said enveloped fully developed plant soilless to an end user; and  
and transplanting said plant.

20           21. The method according to claim 20, whereby said plant is an aquatic plant and said step of transplanting said plant comprises planting said plant into an end user's pond.

22. The method according to claim 21, wherein said aquatic plant is selected from the group comprised of water lily tubers and marginal plant cuttings and has a root or cut end; and  
25           further wherein said step of enveloping the lower end of a plant in an open webbed fibrous

5 material is further comprised of wrapping a strip of said fibrous material around the roots of said plant in a coil forming a pod such that the plant stem is contained in the center of the pod.

22. The method according to claim 21, wherein said container is a potting container and said step of providing said plant with water such that said plant is allowed to grow and establish  
10 roots in said potting media further comprises placing said potting container in a water basin.

23. The method according to claim 22, wherein said step of cleaning, draining and boxing said wrapped plant is further comprised of placing the cleaned and drained wrapped plant into a clean potting container prior to boxing.

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24. The method according to claim 21, wherein said plants are selected from the group comprising oxygenator stems and bare root cuttings and said step of enveloping the lower end of a plant within an open web fibrous material, further comprises securing a plurality of said plants  
20 spaced at periodic intervals between two layers of said fibrous material.